

# Catholic Action



Vol. XXXV, No. 5

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May, 1953

## You Can Be a Missionary— Among Foreign Students

REV. FREDERICK A. McGUIRE, C.M.

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THE FAMILY LIFE BUREAU, N.C.W.C.

THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC CEMETERY CONFERENCE

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN N.C.W.C.

TELEVISION IS YOUR BUSINESS

WOMEN AT THE FAMILY LIFE CONFERENCE

N.C.C.M. 1953 CONVENTION

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

A NATIONAL MONTHLY PUBLISHED BY THE

*National Catholic Welfare Conference*

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## Calendar of Scheduled Catholic Meetings and Events

May, 1953

- 2-3—NORTH CAROLINA CATHOLIC LAYMEN'S ASSOCIATION—7th annual convention, Goldsboro, N. Car.
- 2-5—GUILD OF CATHOLIC PSYCHIATRISTS—3rd annual meeting, Los Angeles, Calif.
- 3—APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA SUNDAY
- 3-5—NATIONAL CATHOLIC MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION—national convention, Atlanta, Ga.
- 6-9—CATHOLIC PRESS ASSOCIATION—annual convention, Atlantic City, N. J.
- 20—SOLEMN INSTALLATION OF THE MOST REV. JAMES A. McNULTY as Bishop of Paterson.
- 25-28—CATHOLIC HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION—38th annual convention, Kansas City, Mo.
- 29-June 2—KAPPA GAMMA PI—11th national congress, New York City.

June, 1953

- 9-13—CATHOLIC THEATER CONFERENCE—9th biennial convention, Denver, Colo.
- 14-20—INSTITUTE ON INDUSTRY AND SOCIAL ACTION—Washington, D. C.
- 22-24—CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY—general meeting, Baltimore, Md.
- 24-26—FRANCISCAN EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE—34th annual meeting, Washington, D. C.
- 26-29—SERRA INTERNATIONAL—national convention, Seattle, Wash.
- 28-July 3—YOUNG CHRISTIAN WORKERS—annual convention, Notre Dame University, South Bend, Ind.
- 30-July 1—CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE—Priests' Institute, Duluth, Minn.

July, 1953

- 14-16—CATHOLIC COUNCIL FOR THE SPANISH SPEAKING—6th regional conference, Albuquerque, N. Mex.
- 19-22—CATHOLIC CENTRAL VEREIN OF AMERICA and THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC WOMEN'S UNION—annual conventions, San Antonio, Texas

August, 1953

- 3-7—DIOCESAN DIRECTORS OF THE CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE—17th annual convention, New York, New York
- 17-21—NATIONAL LITURGICAL CONFERENCE—14th national week, Grand Rapids, Mich.
- 22-24—NATIONAL FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC COLLEGE STUDENTS—Student government presidents' conference, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 25-27—CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE—regional congress for Province of Indianapolis, Lafayette, Ind.
- 25-30—NATIONAL FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC COLLEGE STUDENTS—10th national Congress, Cincinnati, Ohio.

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# Catholic Action

Vol. XXXV, No. 5

May, 1953

THE Archbishops and Bishops of the Administrative Board of the N.C.W.C. met at headquarters on April 14 for their usual Spring session.

In view of the extensive and increasing interest being manifested in problems of immigration, the Board voted to raise the status of the Bureau of Immigration, which had existed as an integral part of the N.C.W.C. under the Executive Department from its first days, to a full Department in the Conference.

Bishop Michael J. Ready of Columbus was named episcopal chairman of the Department of Immigration, and Bishop Joseph M. Gilmore of Helena, assistant episcopal chairman. These Bishops were holding these same offices in the Department of Catholic Action Study, N.C.W.C.

Bruce M. Mohler, director of the N.C.W.C. Bureau of Immigration, since 1920, becomes director of the new Department of Immigration and Sarah Weadick, assistant director of the Bureau, becomes assistant director of the Department.

The members of the Board transferred the functions of the existing Department of Catholic Action Study to the N.C.W.C. Bureau of Information and discontinued the Catholic Action Study Department.

At this meeting the Administrative Board also reconstituted the Governing Committee of War Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference. The committee is composed of Archbishop Karl J. Alter of Cincinnati, Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington, Archbishop John F. O'Hara, C.S.C., of Philadelphia, Bishop John F. Noll of Fort Wayne and Bishop Thomas K. Gorman, Coadjutor of Dallas. Archbishop Alter, Archbishop O'Boyle and Bishop Noll are ex officio members, by virtue of being chairman, vice-chairman and secretary, respectively, of the N.C.W.C. Administrative Board. Bishop Charles Hubert LeBlond of St. Joseph, Missouri, will be invited by the committee to sit with it. Msgr. Paul F.

Tanner, assistant general secretary, N.C.W.C., is secretary of the Governing Committee.

THE Department of Immigration, created at the April meeting of the Administrative Board from the 32 year-old N.C.W.C. Bureau of Immigration has an enviable record to its credit.

Throughout the years this N.C.W.C. office has helped with countless problems of emigration as well as immigration, with problems of deportation, naturalization and citizenship. It has also helped hundreds of priests and religious with matters incident to their travel to posts throughout the world.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Mohler, who becomes the director of the new department, not only was head of the old N.C.W.C. Bureau of Immigration but founded the bureau for the Bishops. He also set up field offices in New York and El Paso, which throughout the years have served a steady stream of clients.

Mr. Mohler attended the International Immigration Conference in Rome in July, 1924 and later visited various European countries to establish contacts and explain the N.C.W.C. immigration work. He represented War Relief Services-N.C.W.C. in 1943 to investigate relief needs and refugee situations in Portugal, Spain, North Africa, Italy, Sicily, Malta and England during World War II.

His Holiness Pope Pius XII recognized Mr. Mohler's unusual services to the Church when, in 1944, he named him a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Gregory the Great.

Miss Sarah Weadick, too, the assistant director of the Department, has a long and valued service in the work both at Ellis Island and in the Washington office, and has received recognition by the Holy Father.

The New York Port Office of the Department is under the direction of Mr. Thomas F. Mulholland, K.S.G., who, like Mr. Mohler has been with the work since its beginning. Mr. Cleofas Calleros has been the Mexican Border representative since 1926.

# You Can Be a Missionary— Among Foreign Students

Rev. Frederick A. McGuire, C.M.

**I**N RECENT YEARS the American Catholic people have shown an increasing interest in foreign missionary work. Part of this increasing interest is due in no small measure to the fact that so many young Americans during the war years had an opportunity to view foreign missionary work at close range. The second reason for this increasing interest is probably the fact that America has been thrown into the position of world leadership and the American people are beginning to realize more and more the need of understanding the thinking of peoples in distant lands. The Holy Father looks particularly to the American people for financial support of the worldwide missionary effort, and he has not been disappointed. The response of the American people to the numerous appeals for monetary assistance has been most gratifying.

More and more American Catholics are anxious to participate in the actual missionary work. Vocations to the missionary religious communities have increased in the past ten years by leaps and bounds. Young Americans, men and women, who feel no call to religious life, are anxious nevertheless to give some years of their life as lay workers in missionary fields.

Very few lay people can afford to leave the United States to devote a portion of their lives to actual work in mission areas. But there is an activity, which might well be called missionary, possible to all Catholic lay people right here in the United States. It is in every sense a foreign missionary work to be exercised within the boundaries of the United States. It is a work which may well contribute in an astounding degree to the future success of missionary work in fields afar.

Here in the United States there are thousands of young men and women from foreign mission countries studying for higher degrees. Of necessity these young men and women will take on leadership after their return to the homeland. In most of the missionary countries higher education is at a premium. Only a tiny fraction of the population has an opportunity for a university education. Quite naturally those who have had access to higher education will be called upon to take up positions of responsibility in government and in industry. If these people are Catholics they can bring into their future positions the influence of their personal beliefs and can, by their example, be of untold help to the missionaries. If non-Catholics, warm

contact with Catholics will aid the Church's mission to all souls.

Many of these students are from the wealthier families in their homeland and are here in the United States at their own expense. Others are here as a result of scholarships offered by the universities or colleges, or as a result of fellowships offered by governmental or international organizations. Our Catholic colleges and universities have been generous in offering scholarships to outstanding Catholic students. Nevertheless, the great majority of students from missionary countries are not in Catholic colleges or universities but in secular institutions.

Father Sobrino, S.J., has estimated that 92% of the students from Latin America studying in the United States are in non-Catholic institutions. An action taken last year by the National Catholic Educational Association may ameliorate this condition somewhat. A field agent of the NCEA visited the various dioceses of Latin America, encouraging the establishment of an information desk which would distribute directories of North American Catholic colleges and universities and make available other pertinent facts about the advantages of Catholic education in the United States. The official Directory of Catholic Schools and Colleges in the United States was translated into Spanish especially for this project.

In a survey made of all foreign students now studying in the United States, we find that they number 30,844. This number includes all foreign students and not only those from missionary areas. Out of this total 7252 are Catholics, and 7485 are Protestant. We know that the great majority of the Catholic students are not in Catholic colleges. There are 2997 Chinese students, 1142 Indian students, 1162 Japanese students, and 1215 Mexican students. These are some of the larger groups.

For many years Protestant church groups and Protestant social agencies have been very active in providing these students from foreign countries with guidance and hospitality. One of the most effective groups is the Committee on Friendly Relations Among Foreign Students. This Committee is prepared to meet all students as they arrive in New York or San Francisco, and to arrange for them to be met at other ports of entry. It arranges for housing, sightseeing, etc., and makes arrangements for travel to the colleges.



It believes in carefully planned programs of home hospitality to introduce the international student to the American people. Its program department gives help and advice to students seeking part-time employment, summer work opportunities, speaking engagements, and such other experiences as may supplement educational interests and objectives. Members of the staff visit college campuses at the request of college authorities, making use of specialized knowledge and experience to provide various program services. It communicates with students from abroad who seek advice on colleges, scholarship agencies, and information on the United States. It makes available to communities its resources for the development of coordinated programs in which college and community groups cooperate.

In the whole of the United States there is no one Catholic agency doing a similar work. There is no Catholic agency which has a thorough knowledge of this student problem. And yet this work of assisting and guiding the students can be a most gratifying experience to anyone who is willing to devote some spare time to it. The student newly arrived from a foreign country is homesick, insecure, and anxious for friendship. If he or she is a Catholic there is always the hope and the expectation that the Catholic people of the United States will give a hearty welcome. Disappointment and bitterness sometimes result from the fact that rarely does the Catholic student receive any attention whatsoever from Catholic institutions. There is no one organization to which the student may turn for help in the many problems that may arise. There is no arrangement, as a general rule, for the student to receive hospitality in Catholic homes during the various college vacation periods. It is very sad to relate but usually quite true that Catholic families in the United States are loathe to receive the non-white student as a guest in their homes. Recently an outstanding Nigerian student told the writer that Protestant groups have time and time again invited him to participate in various social activities, have been willing to arrange tours for him so that he might see more of America, have offered their services in finding summer work for him. But never once has any Catholic group offered to give him encouragement of this nature despite the fact that he is a Catholic and a student in a Catholic university.

The numerous Chinese students in the United States are permitted, by a special Act of Congress, to remain in the country indefinitely after graduation because of the fact that they do not wish to return to Communist-held China. These Chinese students are anxious to obtain jobs. They find prejudice standing in their way and once again they discover that there is no Catholic group willing to come out and try to place them in positions consonant with their training.

The problem is, first of all, the recognition of the opportunity for real Catholic action among these students from foreign countries. It is possible to go on as

before with no action taken whatsoever. The result, however, of this inertia will undoubtedly be that many Catholic students living in the secularist atmosphere of present day America will return to their homelands with a completely wrong idea of Catholic life in the United States, and will be less fervent as Catholics or possibly will have lost their faith. The non-Catholic students, untouched by any Catholic effort, will return to their homelands strongly imbued with the neo-pagan philosophy of the secularist educational systems so common in many universities and will make the future work of the Catholic missionary much more difficult. The writer has met returned students from the United States in the Far East who are not only completely without any religious concepts, but who are also quite bitter about the unpleasant experiences they had in the United States as a result of racial discrimination.

If the existing Catholic organizations through their leadership would determine to face up to this problem and do something about it, it is quite possible that a program of real effectiveness could be implemented without the expenditure of any large sums of money. This is primarily a work which is personal. Those who enter upon it must be deeply convinced of the need of such efforts and must have a true interest in the welfare of those with whom they will work. Most of the dioceses of the United States have Catholic organizations which could well take upon themselves this type of Catholic action without extending their present staff. The National Council of Catholic Men and the National Council of Catholic Women, through their affiliates, could do a magnificent job of hospitality for foreign students. The Newman Clubs, active on most of our non-Catholic university campuses, could provide special guidance programs for the students. The Knights of Columbus, for example, could do a great deal to solve the employment problems of the young men who are graduates of our universities.

Already in some localities affiliates of N.C.C.W., notably units of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae, are active. Newman Clubs also are now at work on the problem. Many of these clubs have aided surveys of foreign students on various campuses, and the National Newman Club Federation is now engaged in two projects which have immediate bearing on the situation.

In Latin America, through the offices of Enrique Ybarra, Catholic senior students in high schools are being contacted to inform them of the Catholic colleges and universities offering the courses in which they are interested.

The National Office has received in the last week a listing of the foreign students now in the United States, which is being processed for delivery to the local Newman Club chaplains.

The National Association of Foreign Student Advisers numbers among its membership many Catholics

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# The Family Life Bureau of the N. C. W. C. \*

Most Rev. Peter W. Bartholome, D.D.

**T**HE FAMILY LIFE BUREAU is an agency within the framework of the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. As its name implies, its sole concern is the family—its economic, social and spiritual and religious welfare.

In its functioning throughout the country, it takes on the general character of other agencies in the N. C. W. C. Being an agency of the N. C. W. C. its activities have the official approval of the Bishops of the country. Each Bishop in his own diocese, however, has full liberty to reject or accept its program.

Whenever possible the Bureau achieves the realization of its program through Catholic Action Departments of the N. C. W. C., namely, N. C. C. M., N. C. C. W. and the Youth Department. Other diocesan and parish agencies are used if the former are not available. The Bureau has ninety Family Life Directors, each officially appointed by his Ordinary.

The Bureau has maintained relations with all civic, national and international family movements. It commands the respect of national and international organizations in the field of the family.

One of the chief aims and purposes of the Bureau is in the field of study and research on the nature, history and present conditions of the family. Students of research in the field of the family were gathered together in what is known as the National Catholic Conference on Family Life in 1933. These specialists meet each year with the Family Life Director to exchange and discuss the results of their research and study. Out of this Conference developed the literature of the Christian family that has had a telling effect in the development of a general interest in the family. Rev. Dr. Edgar Schmiedeler, O. S. B., who is the director of the Family Life Bureau since its inception, has devoted most of his efforts to promote this study and research. His scholarly ability, coupled with his zeal and industry, has developed a very extensive and exhaustive literature in the field of the family.

Out of this study and research grew and developed programs of action which are recommended to the family life directors and their Ordinaries, such as marriage preparation courses, diocesan family life con-

ventions, maternity guilds, forums and institutes, study clubs, family retreats and conferences. The Bureau has also been partially responsible for the program of courses of instructions in high schools, colleges and universities on Christian marriage, the family, and child care and training. A number of inspirational activities have been introduced, such as the selection of a Catholic Mother of the Year, the awarding of the Family Medal to individuals who have done noteworthy work for the family, a Mother's Day program, the National Family Holy Hour during the time of the national convention, the renewal of the Pledge of Christian Marriage, the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in the Home, and family prayer.

The Family Life Bureau encourages legislation of an economic and social nature beneficial to the Christian family. The Bureau has been represented at all national meetings and has been influential in bringing to the fore the Christian viewpoint on marriage and the family. Its influence in this regard has been perhaps largely negative as far as the non-Catholic public is concerned.

In the international field of Family Life, expressions of high regard of the work of the Bureau have been manifested on the part of students of the family in many countries.

It must be borne in mind that the Family Life Bureau is primarily interested in the spiritual and religious rehabilitation and development of the family. The Bureau realizes full well that the economic and social environment play an important part in the development of the family and, of course, does not neglect any attempts on the part of anyone toward the improvement of these conditions. However, the Bureau feels that if the spiritual and religious element in family living is developed and restored that many of the economic and social elements hostile to the welfare of the family will in large measure disappear. It is for this reason that the Bureau makes a special appeal to the priests listening to me that the efforts made in the parishes and dioceses must be primarily spiritual in their content and in their application. Of course, it is necessary to have an instructed laity on the nature of the Sacrament of Matrimony and the family. It is for that reason that the Bureau urges most strongly upon the pastors that they have marriage preparation courses for those who are contemplating marriage and to a limited degree in the high schools and colleges.

\* Given at a special session for the clergy in conjunction with the 21st annual convention of the National Conference on Family Life, held at Philadelphia, March 16-18, 1953.

The family aspects and character of the sacraments must be more fully realized and applied to our people. It is my opinion that if the pastors and priests of the parishes would bring out and create a family setting in the administration of the Sacrament of Baptism and the reception of the Sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion that a spiritual rejuvenation would take place in the members of the family. Make the Baptism of the new born child a family affair and a family feast day. Instead of having parish organizations go to Communion monthly adopt the system of Family Communion once a month or every Sunday. What a fine religious atmosphere would develop in a home were all members of the family to go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the same Saturday and Sunday. The preparation of the child for First Holy Communion is made an obligation of the parents in some parishes. In some parishes that I know the parents personally present their sons and daughters to the Bishop for Confirmation. And what a magnificent opportunity the Sacrament of Extreme Unction gives to any pastor to inject into the family the Christian viewpoints and teachings. Even the Sacrament of Holy Orders has a family aspect and, of course, Marriage is by its very nature a family Sacrament. These family aspects of the sacraments have been ignored in a large measure by the Church and we rely on parish organizations and diocesan organizations to give the Bread of Life to our people. We ignore the basic and strongest unit in human society to foster a love for Christ and the Church.

These simple facts, I think, are known and recognized by all of you but we have not been conscious enough of them in their application except within the last few years in some sections of our country. A proper use of the sacraments of the Church by the family is the principal means at our disposal toward developing the Christian family and bringing Christ back into it.

Family prayer will develop with this attitude of the family toward the Sacraments. Catholic reading, therefore the Catholic Press, will take on a new life in the homes of the nation. Family retreats will be relished by Christian families and Christ and the Christian spirit will be restored in the homes of the nation. Sometimes I think we are too prone to rationalize the problems of the family. We are forever making an analysis of the situation and relying too much on legislation, social welfare programs and agencies of rehabilitation. Most effort is spent in applying psychological, economic, social and intellectual remedies and we in the Church are prone to do the same. Christ gave us a Church that inaugurates in the soul of man the life of grace in Baptism which is fostered throughout a man's life by the reception of the various sacraments to meet the necessities of individual, family and social living. I feel that we have ignored the family aspect of the sacraments and have therefore allowed a secularistic and materialistic thinking to

creep into our families that is responsible for the sad situation that we find ourselves in today. With the approach to the problem that the Family Life Bureau expressed in the ideas that I have just given you, I know that the Catholic family can be restored to a full Christian vigor.

We have all of the organization and all of the means right within the Church herself, in every diocese and parish throughout the world, to accomplish a spiritual rejuvenation in the family. Very short-lived and meager will be the results of Catholic Action on a diocesan or national scale, or even on a parochial level, if the family is not truly Christian. All the efforts of the bishops and pastors and all religious orders in national societies and organizations will be quite superficial and will fail to produce a genuine Christian thinking and living unless the family is Christ-like in its living and thinking. No power in the world, no matter how antagonistic it is to God and to the Church, will succeed in destroying Christ if the homes of the nation are Christian. The Christian home is a fortress that no governmental influence can penetrate. Even the modern attack by the radio, the press and television will not effect the home adversely if there is a Christian living and thinking in that home. It is for this reason that the Family Life Bureau of the National Catholic Welfare Conference with its program for spiritualizing the family is, according to my judgment, the most important agency in the National Catholic Welfare Conference for it is basic to the restoration of Catholic living and the maintenance of Catholic life in America. The Family Life Bureau is the smallest bureau in Washington. It depends for its success on the Bishops, first of all, and upon each pastor throughout the nation. It will furnish you a program to carry out in your parish life that will renew the face of your parish. You need no special organization. You do need an intelligent understanding of the question, a highly spiritual outlook on the problem and a calm, persevering, determined attitude toward the promoting of activities relative to the Christian welfare of the family.

I trust that this convention, which within the past years has done much to alert priests, religious and laity in the various parts of the country to the importance of the Christian family in the life of the Church and the nation, shall have the same results here in Philadelphia. And let me say as a parting word that the movement toward the spiritualizing of the Christian family in this country has taken on a tremendous impetus throughout the nation. Priests and people are aware of its importance. Everywhere some effort of some kind is being made. The public is conscious of this effort that is made by the Catholic Church relative to the family and I can safely say that the future of the Christian family in the United States is a very promising one if the program making the family genuinely spiritual and Christian is carried out.



# The National Catholic Cemetery Conference

Reverend F. J. McElligott

TO THOSE mindful of the need for and the benefits available to Catholic hospitals, schools, charity bureaus and similar institutions through their respective nation-wide organizations, it will come as no surprise to learn that the Catholic cemeteries of the United States, with the authorization and encouragement of the Hierarchy and the guidance of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, have developed the National Catholic Cemetery Conference. To be sure in cemetery work, as in the field of hospitals, schools, charities and other enterprises, there are various national organizations. Notwithstanding the services which such organizations provide, few Catholics whose activities fall within the areas mentioned would question the importance of organization under Catholic auspices in their respective fields. Similarly, within the ranks of Catholic cemetery administrators and in N.C.W.C. circles during the past decade particularly there developed a growing recognition of the need for establishing an active organization of Catholic cemetery officials.

The Catholic cemetery is an integral institution of the Catholic Church. Cemeteries are established, administered and maintained by the Church in keeping with its beliefs and practices and in fulfillment of the provisions of its Canon Law. The needs which they meet, the people that they serve and the services that they provide are Catholic. While some secular or commercial methods may be adapted for use in the operation of Catholic cemeteries, such methods are employed only to the extent that they aid in the discharge of the religious function of burying the dead and caring properly for these "reliquaries of the saints." Despite apparent similarities between Catholic and non-Catholic cemeteries, Catholic cemeteries are essentially different from all other cemeteries.

Keenly aware of these basic considerations, the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference in November, 1945, voted to encourage directors of Catholic cemeteries to organize on a country-wide level under the direction of the Hierarchy. The Constitution and By-Laws subsequently were developed for this embryonic organization and were approved by the Administrative Board at its meeting in November, 1948; the Board also determined that the new organization should be affiliated with the National Catholic Welfare Conference through the office of the General Secretary, that it should "be forever under the ecclesiastical control and supervision" of the Church, and that its prompt

establishment should be undertaken. In a meeting attended by representatives of twenty-four archdioceses and dioceses, held in Chicago on February 1 and 2, 1949, the name of the organization was decided, the Constitution and By-Laws were adopted, membership qualifications and other operational methods were determined and the National Catholic Cemetery Conference came into being.

The objectives toward which the activities of N.C.C.C. are directed can best be stated by quoting directly from the Constitution which enumerates four specific goals:

1. To provide a forum for the discussion of all phases of Catholic cemetery development, operation and maintenance;
2. To foster and promote the religious, charitable and educational interests of Catholic cemeteries in the United States of America and their beneficiaries in cemetery service;
3. To aid Catholic cemetery officials to understand and solve their cemetery problems by the assembling of accurate information with reference thereto or through other means; and
4. To aid them in improving cemetery services in the respective archdioceses and dioceses served by them.

The motivation for all Conference activity is found in the constitutional mandate: "It shall be a guiding principle of the Conference that burial of the dead is one of the Corporal Works of Mercy."

In its objectives, in its membership and in its activities, N.C.C.C. is directed particularly to the thousands of small Catholic cemeteries scattered throughout the nation, although it is not unmindful of the needs and the peculiar problems of Catholic cemeteries in metropolitan areas. Within one year following its establishment, when the second annual conference was held in Boston in February, 1950, membership had grown to 120 members. Less than three years later, when the fifth annual meeting convened in Chicago in October, 1952, almost 400 members representing 88 archdioceses and dioceses of the United States gave ample testimony of the growth of this neophyte among national organizations.

During the four years of its existence, the Conference has marshalled its resources and channelled its activities principally through the following media: 1) An annual meeting; 2) Distribution of papers delivered at the annual meeting; 3) Circulation of a



monthly newsletter; 4) A program of active committees; and 5) Development of special projects.

Should there be doubt about the varied concerns of a Catholic cemetery administrator, an enumeration of some of the subjects formally considered at annual meetings should quickly dispel such thoughts. In the first conference following the establishment of N.C.C.C., attention was directed to such basic considerations as: "Are Catholic Cemeteries Really Necessary?", "How Can I Rehabilitate a Catholic Cemetery?" This subject included planning and execution of and proper safeguarding of what would be accomplished through rehabilitation of a cemetery. Rules and Regulations likewise were considered and attention was directed to employee benefits, what constitutes a living wage, and application of papal encyclicals to cemetery management and to cemetery workers. In subsequent meetings, while ample time was provided for informal discussion and interchange of experiences, subjects of prepared papers included such matters as "Legal Pitfalls to be Avoided"; "Union and Management Relations"; "The Ecclesiastical Law Concerning Christian Burial"; "Building a Catholic Cemetery"; "A Planned Program to Cut Costs"; "A Model Set of Rules and Regulations"; and a variety of other equally important matters. Particular attention was given to operation of small cemeteries in the discussion of a "Basic Blueprint for Small Cemeteries" and in panel discussions confined to problems of small cemeteries.

Persons responsible for cemetery operations and particularly priests assigned to such work are amazed at the dearth of written material for their guidance in the manifold activities involved in cemetery administration. The papers presented at the annual meetings of N.C.C.C. during the past three years constitute a growing volume of valuable material on the basic principles and operations of Catholic cemeteries, enriched by the wisdom and experience of veteran cemetery administrators.

Within two months after the organization of N.C.C.C., the Administrative Committee responsible for the government of the Conference, realizing the need for a periodical to serve as a vehicle of information for its rapidly expanding membership, authorized publication of a monthly newsletter, *Notes and Quotes*. From its modest beginning as a three-page mimeographed letter in May, 1949, *Notes and Quotes* has developed into a ten page printed journal which includes, pictures, drawings and maps to illustrate the wide range of articles which it features. Due largely to the activity of the numerous N.C.C.C. committees and to the willingness of members to prepare articles of general interest, an increasingly valuable array of information has been made available to the membership through this important medium. Periodic surveys have been conducted among the members to determine areas of particular interest and on the basis of the suggestions thus received, articles and special features have been developed to meet the needs and desires of N.C.C.C. members. During the past year,

an average of three enclosures has been distributed to members with each issue of *Notes and Quotes*, consisting of leaflets and other printed materials prepared by member cemeteries.

In view of the fact that present membership in N.C.C.C. is slightly less than 450 members, it is of more than passing interest to note that approximately twenty per cent of the members are engaged in committee activities. Among the committees active at this time are the following: Canon Law, Civil Law, Development of Cemeteries, Equipment, Landscaping, Legislation, Membership, Monument Inscription, Parish Cemetery, Publications, Research and Sales and Service. In addition to these committees, there are, of course, the Administrative and Executive Committees and several committees whose activities are related to the annual meeting of the Conference. In the main, committee activities have been concerned with development of reports on particular subjects of current interest for publication in the monthly newsletter. In many instances, however, special service has been given to members by individual committees, particularly in connection with the development of new cemeteries and new sections within a cemetery, equipment and development of service programs.

Several special projects have been undertaken by the Conference in addition to normal committee activity. A significant contribution on behalf of Catholic cemeteries throughout the country was made with the adoption of a model set of rules and regulations for a Catholic cemetery. Numerous requests for copies of these rules and regulations have been received from member and non-member cemeteries. The Conference also has published a booklet containing the English translation of the Canons of the Code of Canon Law, which pertains to Christian burial, together with the Decrees of the Plenary Councils of Baltimore on this subject. Additional projects are underway at the present time, particularly development of a model set of records for small cemeteries, and, through the wholehearted cooperation of the Legal Department, National Catholic Welfare Conference, compilation of civil statutes of the various states insofar as they relate to the administration and care of Catholic cemeteries.

To achieve more fully its status as a national organization, and to aid all Catholic cemeteries in accordance with the objectives for which N.C.C.C. was established, added effort is being put forth to bring to the attention of potential members the benefits which can be obtained only through membership in N.C.C.C. The substantial growth of the Conference is a source of much gratification. It is ample evidence, too, of the recognition among Catholic cemeteries of the need for the Conference and of the desire for information and assistance which can best be rendered through such an organization.

*Additional information may be obtained from Father McElligott, secretary of N.C.C.C., 1400 South Wolf Road, Hillside, Illinois.*

## CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN N.C.W.C.

### *News of Work, Projects, Interests*

THE CLOSE COOPERATION existing between the National Catholic Community Service and the various departments and bureaus of the National Catholic Welfare Conference is stressed in a report of the Secretary to the NCCS Board of Trustees.

Through an arrangement made by the NCCS, the Director of the N.C.W.C. Bureau of Family life, Father Edgar Schmiedeler, O.S.B., has made a study of family conditions in communities near some of the military installations in the United States, together with the family programs of the NCCS-USO operations. A pamphlet tentatively entitled "The Catholic Family in Uniform" has been written by Dr. Schmiedeler and Chaplain (Col.) Constantine Zielinski, of the Office of Air Force Chaplains, and is almost ready for the printer. Father Zielinski is chairman of the NCCS Chaplains Committee on Religious Program.

The NCCS-produced pre-induction pamphlet *Greetings!* continues to enjoy great popularity, a supplementary Guide for use by teachers and leaders of pre-induction groups is nearing completion, and many Catholic high schools are using the pamphlet in pre-induction courses. The appearance of the *Syllabus for High School Teachers of Pre-Induction Training*, prepared by the Department of Education, N.C.W.C., resulted in a large increase in the number of high schools which use *Greetings!* as a basic text.

Recently arrangements were made with the National Council of Catholic Men for the inclusion of a special page for Catholic servicemen in the N.C.C.M. publication *Catholic Men*. NCCS has been promoting bulk-copy subscriptions to this publication by chaplains and NCCS-USO clubs, and as a result of the first month's effort some 15,000 copies per month were ordered for distribution by chaplains and USO clubs.

In the celebration of Catholic Youth Week, NCCS distributed special observance kits to all of its USO clubs and to all Catholic military chaplains. NCCS joined in the observance of Catholic Bible Week, in cooperation with the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. In its work with persons engaged in defense industry, NCCS in cooperation with the Department

of Social Action, N.C.W.C., is making studies of conditions and activities relating to the importation of Puerto Ricans into the United States for defense work.

Throughout the country, affiliates of the National Council of Catholic Women supply a large proportion of the volunteers in NCCS local units.

Close cooperation, particularly in connection with pre-induction activities, continues with the N.C.W.C. Youth, Press and Education Departments, the National Councils of Men and Women, and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

#### **In The "Good Old Summer Time"**

Summer is almost here, and while it may be a slack season in some places it is far from that in the headquarters of the National Council of Catholic Women. Not only are there the routine, and not so routine, matters that steadily demand attention, but Summer is a time of intensive planning, so far as N.C.C.W. is concerned.

There is no national convention of the N.C.C.W. this year, but a large and highly successful Regional Conference has just ended in Fresno, Calif., with delegates from a very wide area attending. And now work has begun on Committee Institutes coming up in August. The Women's Council carries on a great deal of its work through a system of national committees. These are groups of women, each committee carefully selected for the contributions its members can make, each dealing with a specific topic on a national basis. The N.C.C.W. is "sold" on the value of this type of procedure, and the Committee Institutes help it to develop the leadership that is necessary for the implementation of the committee system. To this end, Committee Institutes will be held in Minnesota, at a spot in the Middle West yet to be announced, in the South, and on the East Coast.

And, of course, it is not too early to prepare for the next national convention of the N.C.C.W. which will be held in Boston, November 7 to 10, 1954. N.C.C.W. expects the 1954 meeting to be one of the largest ever held. Boston hotels, the convention bu-

reau, and the newly-organized Boston Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women have been contacted in connection with the preparations.

Eighteen national chairmen are working on program plans for the coming year. By the end of June every national committee will have its outlines, so that diocesan chairmen throughout the country can plan during the summer for the program of the year.

Incidentally, a new program of civic cooperation is being undertaken by the N.C.C.W. in the field of traffic safety. A handbook stressing the three "E's" of traffic safety—education, engineering and enforcement—has been sent to every affiliated organization to assist them in developing local programs. As a national federation, N.C.C.W. has participated in every President's Highway Safety Conference since their inception in 1946. Now intensive effort is being exerted to make the Action Program of the Conference effective at the grass roots.

Yes, the "good old summer time" is an excellent time for planning.

### The First of Its Kind

The National Catholic Camping Association, part of the N.C.W.C. Youth Department, will meet a long-standing need when it provides, for the first time this summer, an Aquatic Institute for Seminarians and Religious.

In conjunction with the Eastern Area of the American Red Cross, the NCCA will make it possible for many seminarians and religious who serve as camp counsellors to obtain Red Cross training leading to the rating of Water Safety Instructors. Previously this type of training had to be obtained at co-educational National Aquatic Schools.

The first five-day Aquatic Institute for Cathedral Camp, New Bedford, Mass., is scheduled for June 22 to 26, Msgr. Joseph E. Schieder, director of the N.C.W.C. Youth Department and the NCCA, has announced. The spiritual needs of the trainees will be well provided for at the Fall River diocesan camp, which will also make available excellent facilities for the training course.

At a regional meeting of diocesan youth directors just held in St. Paul, Minn., priests from seven of the province's nine dioceses reported on the progress in youth work over a widespread area in the States of Minnesota, North and South Dakota. Plans were made for a regional federation of diocesan councils of Catholic youth to meet for the first time in September, 1953. Father J. Eugene Eiselein, assistant director of the Youth Department, outlined the services of N.C.W.C., and the Youth Department in particular, with special emphasis on the new framework provided by the National Council of Catholic Youth's diocesan section (the National Federation of Diocesan Catholic Youth Councils) with its relation to individual parish units.

What is said to be a unique approach has been developed for the Fourth National Conference on Catholic Youth Work, to be held at Boston, November 9 to 13. It was worked out by veteran youth directors at a planning committee meeting held in New York. It will not be made public until it has been submitted to regional and associate regional directors across the country.

Youth Department staff members have in recent days participated in national executive committee meetings of the National Newman Club Federation held at Ames, Iowa, and the National Federation of Catholic College Students, Washington, D.C.; the conventions of the National Catholic Educational Association, Atlantic City, N.J.; the Catholic Committee of the South, Richmond, Va.; the National Council of Catholic Men, St. Louis; and the first convention sponsored by the newly-formed Diocesan Council of Catholic Youth of Charleston, S.C.

At the request of Archbishop Richard J. Cushing, Monsignor Schieder and Father Eiselein conducted sessions for priests of each of the districts and deaneries of the Boston Archdiocese in preparation for the founding of an Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Youth.

### Not as Easy as It Looks

Because there is so very much happening each day, and every day, the average layman might be led to think that the newsman's lot is an easy one. Indeed, there is no lack of activity for anyone engaged in reporting and editing the news, but news reporting is more difficult today than ever before.

There are many reasons for this, and relatively few of them stem from the volume of news, although this presents enlarged problems in gathering, handling, selecting and printing. The chief reasons are that censorship and "blackouts" (iron and bamboo curtains of silence) conceal developments in much of the world; governments have entered actively into the manipulation and "planting" of news for propaganda purposes, and the "lie" has become an official weapon in many countries. So, at the very time when man needs most to be properly informed, handlers of news are confronted with the necessity of questioning, testing, weighing and sifting almost all news reports, and at a time when there are more of them than at any time before.

And this is not a problem of the secular press alone. It is in a special way a concern of the Catholic Press. Catholics form the great bulk, or a large segment, of the population in many of those countries where persecution rages and rigid censorship stands guard. And, as the secular press finds it increasingly costly, as well as difficult, to combat these obstructions, so does the Catholic Press.

This question, though constant and pressing for some years now, is somewhat to the fore at present,



and will be discussed at the annual convention of the Catholic Press Association of the United States, held in Atlantic City, May 6 to 9.

As a part of its service to the Catholic Press, the Press Department of the N.C.W.C. keeps American Catholic editors and publishers posted on unusual developments in the field of journalism that come to its attention.

The Atlantic City meeting is also expected to see a discussion of ways and means of extending and improving the coverage of Catholic news in the United States. News reporting in this country does not present the same problems as are encountered in foreign lands, but it is constantly growing in its demands on personnel and facilities, always presenting new facets, ever challenging.

The CPA, incidentally, is entering upon its Atlantic City meeting with its largest membership in history. Reports for the convention give assurance of even greater and steady growth. The CPA conventions are attended by the editors, publishers and business managers of Catholic newspapers and magazines in the United States and Canada. Officials report that the agency is expanding even further its usefulness and services to member publications.

### **Always Something New!**

Even with its long experience in dealing with the problems of immigrants, the Department of Immigration is constantly finding new and challenging aspects in an ever-changing work.

A matter of extreme importance to a majority of the clients of the Department is the comparative state of exhaustion of the particular quota under which they fall on the basis of their country of birth. Keeping up with the status of the various quotas involves also keeping up with the latest geographical boundaries, which lately have had a way of changing in a somewhat astonishing manner.

Take French Indo-China, for instance. Once the Department checked under French Indo-China to see whether a quota number might be available for a particular client, but not any more. Now it must check under Cambodia, or under Viet Nam, or under Laos, all French Indo-China having been divided, like Gaul, into three parts. It thus becomes necessary to learn in which particular part of the territory the Department's client first saw the light of day.

As for Jordan, that quota is really something special. Once there was a country called Palestine. Politically, there is no longer such a country. That territory is now a part either of Israel or the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. This division, however, does not mean anything so simple as that there are now two quotas where there was but one before. Not at all. There are now three quotas where formerly there was one, and one of the quotas is that of Palestine!

The Department is always being told that a client was born in Jordan, only to find out that his

birthplace, while under the political control of Jordan, is in the part of Jordan that falls under the Palestine quota. The latter is in a chronic state of exhaustion, while the quota for Jordan is wide open. The only explanation for this latter situation seems to be either that not many people are born east of the Jordan, or else that they like it where they are.

A new diversion for the Department of Immigration has developed in the form of requests from its old friend, the St. Raphael's Verein in Germany, to look into the antecedents, solvency and general reliability of certain persons and firms in the United States that are offering jobs to persons of special qualifications in Germany.

St. Raphael's Verein has always concerned itself with the welfare of Catholics emigrating from Germany and now, after the interruption caused by the war, has resumed its former activities. The new Immigration and Naturalization Act makes it possible for aliens to come to pre-arranged employment unless the Department of Labor has informed the Attorney General that there is a surplus of that kind of labor in the vicinity to which the alien is destined. Hence this type of request for investigations and reports. The Department has up to now been very successful in obtaining excellent descriptions of the opportunities being offered and has taken pleasure in transmitting these to Germany.

### **700,000 Youth Expected**

Something of the atmosphere of Christmas card manufacturers designing their greeting cards in February has characterized the National Center of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, the staff of which has been busy all winter in preparing for the 1953 Religious Vacation School program. Now in their 30th year, these four-week periods of religious instruction in June and July for Catholic pupils attending public schools were the first phase of the CCD program to be developed on a national basis.

More than 700,000 Catholic youth will attend parish Vacation Schools in 1953.

The *Religious Vacation School Manuals*, which outline daily programs of teacher and pupil activity for every morning of the four-week period, are presently undergoing a major revision. Members of religious communities engaged exclusively in teaching public school pupils have been working for two years on the project.

At least two of the three volumes which make up the series will be available for 1953 sessions. These will detail catechetical lesson plans for teachers of the eight elementary grades and are based on editions of the First Communion, No. 1 and No. 2 Revised Baltimore Catechism. They provide Religious and lay teachers with an outline of *what* and *how* to teach each of the twenty periods which make up the standard Religious Vacation School program in the United States. Experienced teachers find the *Manuals*

a timesaver; inexperienced teachers, a veritable lifesaver.

In addition to religion lesson outlines for the teacher, the *Manuals* contain suggestions on project and craft periods, the daily singing and recreation periods, a graded outline of instructions on and suggestions for active participation in Holy Mass. A detailed appendix lists appropriate handbooks and texts for both teachers and pupils, visual and audio-visual aids.

As now in practice the daily Religious Vacation School Schedule is:

- 8:15 Holy Mass
- 9:00 Opening prayers and hymn  
Salute to the Cross and Salute to the Flag
- 9:10 Sacred Story and Picture Study  
Christian Doctrine and Religious Practice  
Lesson for the day
- 10:10 Recess with supervised recreation
- 10:30 Singing Period
- 10:45 Liturgical Period
- 11:00 Project period
- 11:50 Closing prayers

### "Proceedings" in Book Form

The Proceedings of the Philadelphia convention of the National Conference on Family Life will be available in a few days. It will be a fair-sized volume and is expected to prove highly useful, both as private reading and as source material for study club programs. The theme of the convention was "The Father, The Head of the Home."

Preparation of the great amount of material that has gone into the proceedings is a work which recently has occupied the attention of the N.C.W.C. Family Life Bureau.

Simultaneously, the Bureau has been engaged in bringing together all available information on the various nominees proposed for the title of 1953 Catholic Mother of the Year. The mother thus honored is traditionally named on the Feast of St. Monica, and a great deal of preliminary work must precede the announcement of the judges.

The Director of the Bureau took an active part in a workshop on the family at the St. Louis convention of the National Council of Catholic Men, and spoke at the regional meeting of the National Council of Catholic Women held in Fresno, Calif. On these trips westward, the Director was able to contact a dozen or more diocesan directors of Family Life.

### Meetings in Wide Variety

Members of the Department of Social Action staff continue to take active parts in a wide variety of important meetings and programs. Some of these meetings and discussions are held under Catholic auspices, some are not.

When the annual convention of the Catholic Committee of the South was held at Richmond, Va., April 21 to 24, two Social Action Department workers were prominent in its deliberations. Father George G. Higgins, assistant director, addressed the convention as a whole and also took part in panel discussions of its Committee on Industrial Relations. Miss Margaret Garrity took part in panel meetings discussing "Equality of Opportunity as an Essential for Christian Family Life."

On quite a different occasion, in Washington, Father Higgins conducted a panel discussion on "Church and Labor" for a group of Italian labor leaders who are visiting in the United States under the auspices of the Mutual Security Administration.

Father John F. Cronin, S.S., assistant director of the department, was appointed program chairman to prepare for the annual convention of the All-American Conference to Combat Communism. He was also a consultant to the National Civil Liberties Clearinghouse at its annual meeting in Washington. Out in Detroit, Father Cronin spoke to the Catholic Physicians Guild of that city on "The Social Responsibilities of the Doctor."

### YOU CAN BE A MISSIONARY

*Continued from page 5*

—lay men and women, priests and sisters—at work on local campuses.

But much more needs to be done. Effective handling requires organized and federated action. The real crux of the problem is, first of all a desire to do something, and then the coordination of the various agencies available for work. It is not, after all, a problem of such magnitude that the machinery for such an operation could not be set up in a matter of a few months. Those who have already come in contact with students from foreign countries have found real satisfaction and pleasure in learning so much about the homeland and the culture of another people. Perhaps the individual Catholic reading this article will be tempted to pass over the whole problem and decide that it is not for him or for her to do anything about it. That will be most unfortunate because the problem will be solved only if enough individuals decide that it must be faced. Surely the magnificent organization of the Catholic Church in the United States is not incapable of taking on this task.

### OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Rev. Frederick A. McGuire, C.M., is director of the Mission Secretariat of the United States.

Most Rev. Peter W. Bartholome, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of St. Cloud, is episcopal moderator of the Family Life Bureau.

Rev. F. J. McElligott is secretary of the National Catholic Cemetery Conference.

Ramona Smart (Mrs. Winfield D.) is the national vice chairman, N.C.C.W. Committee on Public Relations.

Mary Spillman (Mrs. Albert R.) is N.C.C.W. national director from the Province of New York.

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## NATIONAL COUNCIL CATHOLIC WOMEN

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Television Is Your Business—  
Women at the Family Life Conference—Conventions—Defense

### Television Is Your Business

Ramona Smart

THE WHOLE FUTURE USE of television for education and culture in the public interest is dependent upon an interested and vocal public. This powerful instrument of mass enlightenment as well as entertainment must be so regulated in the public interest that it can achieve its full stature in the service of mankind.

Last Fall the Parish Council of Catholic Women of St. James Church, Falls Church, Va., felt that the television industry was not discharging its obligation in providing a sufficient amount of suitable programming for children. As a group of Catholic mothers, we had various complaints about the programs our children watched, both from the moral standard and the cultural level. So we decided to do something about it.

We took a poll in our local parochial school, St. James. We found, that out of 1,400 children enrolled, over 1,000 watched television regularly. So we decided that a survey of parental opinion in such a group would be worth the effort of collecting. Before this decision we discussed various methods of pointing out to the industry the antagonism they were buying from a large consumer group of parents by sponsoring offensive shows. We thought of giving out postcards to be used, but decided we would be at the mercy of the radical minority which by their prudish opinions make a farce of a worthy cause.

Our next problem was what form of questionnaire we should use. We spent much time telephoning various colleges and universities to see if perhaps a graduate student might be writing his thesis on such a subject, but found none, so as the Little Red Hen did, we did it ourselves. Our first questionnaire was very simple. We sent out a mimeographed sheet with a space for the child's name, age, and grade, and a space for his parent to write the ten most watched programs and his (the parent's) opinion of them as wholesome and worthy programs for his child's viewing, and any other comment he cared to make.

Our results were spectacular. The proportion of returns was very large and it was apparent that the majority of parents was much concerned with the problem. The criticisms were so fine and so constructive that it was a joy to compile them. We felt that we had a truly useful set of parental comments to give to the television industry.

Our next problem was what to do with our results, that is, what would be the most effective way of presenting them to the people who were in a position to do something about it? We learned that NARTB was issuing a Television Code for the use of the industry and wished to receive comment such as ours. So we sent a copy of our survey results to the Television Code Review Board, also to the various local networks and to each of the local papers. It was a most fortunate coincidence that the NARTB Code was adopted on March 1, 1952 and our survey results were sent to the press at almost the same time. It made a good news story and the resultant publicity nationally brought us mail from parents all over the United States.

It was now apparent that the Committee could not stop its efforts at this point. One of the key questions the reporters asked was "What did the NARTB Review Board say?" and also "What results will the enactment of the code have on children's programs?" "Will the NARTB Seal of Good Practice really have an effect?" We couldn't quit until we had the answers to some of these questions. We also had a particular distinction in being the first voluntary parental group to make such a survey in the Nation and the general interest shown made it almost obligatory to continue with our policing efforts.

One of the questions sent in by the principal of a school which was much interested in our survey asked if we had compiled a list of the approved programs for children. As our first questionnaire was so simple we had not given any standards for any parent's decision on the worth of a program. We decided that our next survey should state some simple standards for children's programs by which it would be possible to judge the overall merit of a program and also inform the industry specifically what was wrong. We took the four words from the Seal of Good Practice: Education, Entertainment, Information and Culture and asked the parents to guide themselves by four statements that we printed on the questionnaire.

Because much of the recreational reading time of our children was being sacrificed to television programs, we asked:

First, is this program a worthy substitute for a good book for my child? We felt that the industry might find more suitable subject material and the parents



had many suggestions of a constructive nature on this score. We realized, and several comments corroborated the fact, that television should not take the place of reading, but if the industry listed Education as one of its standards we felt that it would be possible to score the educational value of the program by considering a statement such as the above when judging a program.

Second, does this program entertain my child without resort to vulgarity or disrespect for parents or constituted authority?

Third, does this program inform my child of facts which add to his or her knowledge?

Fourth, does this program abide by a high moral standard?

These questionnaires were sent out April 20, 1952, and returned to us April 28, 1952. Seven hundred of the one thousand questionnaires were filled in and returned, the majority of which stated that the enactment of the Television Code had very little influence on the type of programs offered for children, particularly those shown between the hours of five and seven daily. Some of the programs given the poorest parental rating were still offered at that time and these were made even more objectionable by the fact that no worthy programs were offered in competition with them.

As before, copies of the results of our survey were sent to the industry and NARTB, plus the press. Needless to say, we were called by many of the local papers and managers of local TV stations.

At the close of our second survey we turned our results over to the National Council of Catholic Women, as the correspondence nationally was becoming too heavy for a small group to handle. It was at this time that I was requested to present our findings to the Harris Committee. I was called as a witness on September 25, and after a short statement for the Movietone News Service, I went into the committee room where Monte Levy, staff counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union, was testifying. If it were possible to select a witness more diametrically opposed to all our group stood for I don't know where he could be found. Mr. Levy felt that the NARTB Code "violated the freedom of the people of this country and the broadcasting industry itself." He felt that the studio should be so sensitive to the ears of the public that anything offensive to a large segment of the population would be cleaned up by the network. If that were so, then all the documented evidence I had to the contrary would prove that somebody was off the track. The committee was most unreceptive to his feeling that the NARTB Code was squelching some creative "Artist." Even Mr. Klein, who said that at one time he agreed with Mr. Levy's views, declared his position "untenable."

According to the press, one of the most effective

speakers for the industry was Mrs. Geraldine B. Zorbaugh, acting general counsel for American Broadcasting Company. Charming and convincing as the lady might be, I must point out some big holes in her testimony when she presented FBI figures to prove that crime programs on television have no effect on a city's crime rate. This was an example of misleading propaganda which did accomplish its goal. Frank Orme (TV Magazine) was not so convinced and I quote his review of her testimony in October 1952 TV Magazine:

The bulk of the criticism of crime programming has been aimed at the presentation of crime, horror, and brutality in programs for children. Specifically, the charges against these programs are, that they increase fears and nervousness, interfere with healthful eating and sleeping habits, and that they produce a callousness to the suffering of others and an atrophy of sympathy and compassion toward those in distress.

It is hardly possible that the effects of these TV programs for children from five to twelve, viewed in volume only during the past three years, would be reflected in the records of auto thefts, murders, burglaries and robberies in American cities during 1951! Mrs. Zorbaugh dodged an issue which is a national social problem to demolish a non-existent wraith. Intentionally or otherwise, she used FBI statistics to attack the validity of conclusions not even remotely associated with these figures.

It had never been the intent or desire of the St. James Parish Council to be known as a group of "reformers." We felt from the beginning that our approach to television should be positive and we tried to make it so. That is the reason that, in our second survey, we listed the programs in order of their merit so that these worthy programs would be made known to the parental public. We wished also that the producers of some of these fine programs would know that their productions are valued and appreciated.

At the present time the National Council of Catholic Women is conducting a nation-wide survey of children's programs with the feeling that this necessary improvement will be accomplished, not by legal means, but by a very effective bit of voluntary action. We must make our desires and suggestions known to the sponsors of poor programs. The advertising industry is very sensitive to the voice of the buying public.

What is television's future? That is your business. The tremendous potentialities of television's power to inform should be a source of great interest to leaders in any field. Are our children going to experience their due inheritance: the best music, the finest minds, the cream of the arts and literature, the best information on history and government, or shall we let them open the door labeled television and learn how to sing commercials with Howdy Doody?

## Women at the Family Life Conference

Mary Spillman

"THE FATHER, the Head of the Home" was the theme of the 21st annual convention of the National Catholic Family Life Conference held in Philadelphia, Pa., March 16-18. The convention opened with Pontifical High Mass in the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul, celebrated by Most Reverend Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States.

Our President, Mrs. William H. Dalton, headed a group of N.C.C.W. women who participated in the convention. Mrs. Dalton presided at the general session on the first night. At that session Most Reverend Peter W. Bartholome, Coadjutor Bishop of St. Cloud and episcopal moderator of the Family Life Bureau, N.C.W.C., presented four National Catholic Action Awards to two priests and two women.

One of these women was Maria Augusta Trapp, mother of the famed Trapp Family Singers. As Mrs. Trapp was unable to be present at this particular session, Miss Margaret Mealey, executive secretary, N.C.C.W., accepted for her. The other woman to be honored was the late Madame F. Steenberghe-Engeringh, of Holland, who was president of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations. The posthumous award was accepted by Mrs. Henry Mannix, vice-president general of the World Union and past president of N.C.C.W.

At the second general session Miss Kathryn H. McCarthy, national director, N.C.C.W., Province of Philadelphia, and national chairman, N.C.C.W. Committee on Youth, read an address, "The Mother, the Heart of the Home," prepared by Dr. Maria Schlueter Hermkes, Rhondorf, Germany.

National organizations affiliated with N.C.C.W. were represented by Miss Frances M. Maher, supreme regent of the Catholic Daughters of America, and Mrs. Helen T. Howard, national regent, Daughters of Isabella. Both women presided at important meetings on the *Head of the Home* and *Family Interests*. Mrs. W. H. Rohman, president of the National Catholic Women's Union, represented that organization. Mrs. Mary Filser Lohr, past president of the N.C.W.U., spoke on "The Maternity Guilds" at the meeting on *The Organized Family Apostolate*. Mrs. Francis I. Fasy, president, Philadelphia Alliance of Catholic Women, chaired one session.

Former National Directors of N.C.C.W. attending the convention were Mrs. Robert Donaldson, Province of Newark, and Mrs. Joseph Michels, Province of Philadelphia. The present National Board was represented by our President, Mrs. Dalton, Miss Kathryn McCarthy and Mrs. Albert Spillman. Others attending were Mrs. Richard F. Gormley, national chairman, Committee on Spiritual Development, and Mrs. Walter Sneider, vice-chairman of the Family and Parent Education Committee.

At the session on *The Family and the Economic*, Miss Katherine B. Kelly, field secretary, Social Action Department, N.C.W.C., speaking on "Mothers in Industry," said 80 percent of female workers are employed because they need to support themselves or must contribute toward family expenses. In one of the statements adopted at the convention it was deplored as a "disgrace that in this land of plenty and phenomenal production mothers are forced to work for a livelihood—robbing the worker's child of the natural right to a mother's care and making impossible even the minimum of genuine family life."

Miss Catherine Schaefer, N.C.W.C. observer at the United Nations, in speaking on "Recent Family Developments in the Western World" said, "Fortunately now the Western World begins to realize that the family is worth saving. This is partly due to a reassertion of the natural instinct of self-preservation, which even Soviet Russia experienced. But it is also due to a growing consciousness of its great dignity and responsibility on the part of the family itself. For this, the Church can take credit." Miss Schaefer also stated that an understanding of the true nature of marriage and the family has been furthered through "studies of the Family Life Bureau of N.C.W.C., of the Family Life Conferences and the practical study and action of the Councils of Catholic Men and Women."

In her paper on "Promoting the Family Apostolate," Miss Margaret Mealey emphasized that one learns to know, love and serve God through the practical application of religious principles to daily living. She told of the N.C.C.W. cooperation in the work of the Family Apostolate through its 7800 affiliations in 86 dioceses in the United States.

Mrs. John S. Shada, Detroit A.C.C.W. chairman of the Committee on Family and Parent Education, described how the program of her committee is made available to the parishes in Detroit.

Addresses at the session devoted to *Family Interests* were delivered by Mrs. Kenton Kilmer, Mrs. John S. Reilly, president, National Catholic Conference on Family Life, and Miss Dorothea F. Sullivan, National Catholic School of Social Service of the Catholic University of America. Miss Ann Culkin, president of the Scranton D.C.C.W., spoke on "This Thing Called Personality."

On St. Patrick's Day the attending members of diocesan councils of Catholic women had a luncheon at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel. Thirty-eight women including Sister M. Nazarene, I.H.M., and Sister M. Paul Joseph, I.H.M., of Scranton, Pa., enjoyed this social get-together. The Harrisburg and Brooklyn Councils had the largest representations. There were seven from the Harrisburg Council, headed by Mrs. Bernard Wert, diocesan president, and Mrs. Louis A.

Creeden, diocesan Family and Parent Education chairman. Among the eight women from the Brooklyn Council were Mrs. F. Gerald Rigney, diocesan president, Miss Marie Berry, diocesan recording secretary, Mrs. J. A. Gerardi, diocesan chairman of the Family and Parent Education Committee, Mrs. Francis E. Shea and Mrs. Brian Spencer, chairmen of the Com-

mittee on Family and Parent Education in Kings County and Queens County, respectively.

The three-day convention closed with a Family Holy Hour in the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul. Six hundred and fourteen couples—all silver jubilarians this year—were present to renew their marriage vows.

## A.C.C.W. Conventions: Training Schools for Action

**T**HE recent conventions of the Portland and Detroit Archdiocesan Councils of Catholic Women offered intensive training for the continuing action pledged by the participants.

**Portland . . .** Carrying through the theme "Knock and It shall be opened to You," the Portland A.C.C.W. planned its 29th annual convention program to give the greatest possible opportunity for individual participation. Held March 14-15, with 260 delegates attending, the convention program included four workshops on Council activities. A symposium was presented on four phases of the Bishops' Statement, "Religion: Our Most Vital National Asset." Most Rev. Edward D. Howard, Archbishop of Portland, and Hon. Paul L. Patterson, governor of Oregon, were guest speakers at the convention. Resolutions adopted advocated state legislation entitling all persons to full and equal rights without regard to race, creed, or color; expressed full confidence in national leaders; and pledged continued support of Catholic schools and of the religious education program of the C.C.D. The President, Mrs. Malcolm McLean, who presided at the sessions, continues in office.

**Detroit . . .** The 15th annual convention of the Detroit A.C.C.W., held March 26 with over 1500 women in attendance, was dedicated to the theme "God's Will: Our Work." While the President, Mrs. Cyril P. Lundy, reported the splendid cooperation of the Council during the past year in civic and community projects, the women were urged by Rev. Hubert A. Maino, spiritual moderator, to accelerate the recruitment of new members to meet the needs of the Council's expanding program. His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Mooney, commended the Council on its "social maturity" in planning workshops in three vital fields of the lay apostolate—family life, social action, and international relations. He urged action in these fields as the best way to "bear Christ into the market place." His Eminence also praised the splendid work the Council has accomplished in its decency crusade in which 130 parishes had participated during the past year. To further this work, Rev. Thomas J. Fitzgerald, spiritual moderator of the Chicago A.C.C.W. addressed the convention on the decent literature program of the Chicago Council.

## Readying for the A-Bomb

**S**HOULD the atom bomb strike the United States, large areas may be without electricity, gas, transportation and fuel; homes, restaurants, cafeterias, food equipment and storage facilities may be destroyed. The responsibility for feeding the people will then rest upon civilian agencies. Hence civilians must be trained. In preparation for such an emergency, the jointly sponsored Federal Civil Defense Administration—Quartermaster Corps pilot training program on improvisation in emergency feeding was held at Fort Lee, Virginia, March 4-6. Mrs. Constantine A. McCarty, of the Richmond D.C.C.W., represented the N.C.C.W. and the National Conference of Catholic Charities at this meeting.

The first discussion, "Russia has the Atom Bomb," set the tempo for the sessions that followed. Faced squarely, the situation may call for the establishment of a system of mass feeding, water purification and sanitation inspection. Cooking and eating utensils, water supply, production of food supplies, disposal of garbage and refuse, washing facilities, toilets (either standard or improvised), accident hazards, first aid equipment, fire fighting weapons,—all present problems that must be solved by the volunteer worker.

The health of food handlers, cleanliness of staff, condition of kitchen and dining areas, are all important factors in maintaining health. Emergency kitchen sites must be selected and care exercised in the preparation and service of food.

All these subjects came up for discussion at the meeting and information was given the group toward their solution. Lively discussions were had on refrigeration, sewerage and emergency waste disposal, and the prevention and control of food poisoning in disaster feeding. A combination hot plate and oven and double barrel oven were erected in the demonstration. Oil drums may be used for cooking and sterilizing; tin cans may be converted into spoons, cups, dippers, scoops, etc. Water heater and cooking facilities may be made of bricks supporting half of a 55-gallon drum covered with a piece of sheet metal and suspended across a fire trench.

The pilot course indicated that only a trained personnel can prevent unnecessary deaths in the aftermath of an atomic attack. It generated enthusiasm to share with others the knowledge and methods that may save many lives in an emergency.



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## NATIONAL COUNCIL CATHOLIC MEN

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1953 Convention  
— Television —  
Radio for May

### 1953 Convention

**A**T THE 33rd Annual Convention of the National Council of Catholic Men in St. Louis, April 11-12, two Archbishops in formal addresses put heavy emphasis upon the importance of the laity's work in spreading the faith and furthering the cause of the Church in the United States.

"If all things are to be restored in Christ," said Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston, "the work will have to be done, in the main, by the laity. Upon our men and women, our boys and girls, chiefly depends the well-being of the Church and the State, of human society at large."

The National Council of Catholic Men is one of the most important undertakings with which a Bishop could engage himself, according to Archbishop Joseph E. Ritter of St. Louis, host to the convention. The St. Louis Archbishop added that: "There is hardly anything, next to the administration of the Sacraments, the pastoral work of the Church, that is more important than this, what we are trying to accomplish through the Council of Catholic Men. . . . I do not exaggerate when I tell you that the future of the Church in our country is not in the hands of the Bishops, but in the hands of you, the laymen of the country."

Archbishop Cushing, who is episcopal chairman of the Department of Lay Organizations of the N.C.W.C., made his address at the convention banquet which was attended by approximately 500 delegates from all sections of the United States. Wives and guests accompanied them. On the side the Archbishop said that he wished organizations would spend less time "saving the saved."

In addition to the two Archbishops, eight other members of the Hierarchy were present at the convention. They included: Bishops Albert R. Zuroweste of Belleville, Ill.; William A. O'Connor, Springfield, Ill.; Mark K. Carroll, Wichita, Kans.; Francis R. Cotton, Owensboro, Ky.; Edwin V. O'Hara, Kansas City, Mo.; Albert G. Meyer, Superior, Wisc.; Charles H. Helmsing, Auxiliary, St. Louis; and Allen J. Babcock, Auxiliary, Detroit.

The opening session was called to order by President Francis I. Nally of Toledo. Rt. Rev. Msgr. Howard J. Carroll, general secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, explained the work of the N.C.W.C., while Martin H. Work, executive secretary of N.C.C.M., described the program of action which the National Council has undertaken.

Following there was a general discussion on organization and development.

Other general session speakers included Father Joseph H. Anler, moderator of the St. Louis Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Men; Eugene J. Sullivan, president of the St. Louis Council, and Mayor Joseph M. Darst of St. Louis. The chairman of the local St. Louis Committee on Arrangements for the convention was Hon. David A. McMullan, national secretary of N.C.C.M. and former president of the St. Louis A.C.C.M.

The delegates represented some four million Catholic men in approximately 7,000 national, diocesan, state and parish organizations throughout the country.

The theme of the convention was, "A Program for Catholic Action," and its main work was done in workshops dealing with seven fields in which N.C.C.M. has embarked on a program of action. The workshops gave all delegates opportunities to express their individual views on how particular problems should be met and the work advanced.

The workshops dealt with civic and social action, communications, family life, legislation, public relations, religious activities, and youth.

Resolutions adopted at the convention called for a study of the United Nations in the light of the Papal peace program and urged the United States to keep before the United Nations the idea of God.

Also called for was the resettlement of populations in less-developed and potentially-rich areas of the world; for special legislation for the admission of additional refugees, expellees and displaced persons on a non-quota basis, and recommendation for a thorough study of the U. S. immigration policy toward the end that a more Christian and equitable attitude might be adopted.

N.C.C.M. called for the internationalization of Jerusalem; for the father to fill his place as head of the family; that God be restored in the home and that the spirit of secularism be removed from it. Vocations, particularly in the teaching professions, were called for and the parochial school system praised.

N.C.C.M. also recommended the support of the investigation by Congressional committees of indecent and offensive literature. And it praised and endorsed the work of the National Council of Catholic Youth and the National Catholic Community Service.

That the year ending March 1, 1953, was a most successful one for N.C.C.M., perhaps the most suc-

cessful in its 33-year history was evident from the facts and figures included in the report of activities submitted by Mr. Work.

The following tabulation of organizations affiliated with N.C.C.M. will give a good comparison between the years 1952 and 1953:

	1952	1953
National Organizations .....	14	14
Diocesan Councils .....	17	22
Parishes in Diocesan Affiliates..	3,098	4,088
Parish Organizations .....	2,044	2,155
State or Regional .....	32	25

The five new diocesan councils added were Boston, Cincinnati, San Francisco, Springfield and Spokane.

One of the most effective pieces of work done by N.C.C.M. was that related to the activities of the Congressional committees investigating indecent literature. N.C.C.M., by supplying evidential matter, securing support of affiliates throughout the country, giving consultative advice, etc., was publicly credited by the author of the legislation in question, Congressman E. C. Gathings (D., Ark.) with being the organization who brought the committee into being and without whose help the investigating body would not have been able to function as effectively as it did.

During the year, many meetings and conferences of national and international importance were attended by staff members and specially-designated representatives.

The growth of *Catholic Men*, the monthly publication of N.C.C.M., from a circulation of 6,600 in 1950 to over 70,000 in 1953 is an indication of its popularity.

In the field of radio, Mr. Work reported that the Catholic Hour, now in its 24th year, is being carried by 143 stations in the United States. This gives it the greatest coverage by far of any religious program on the NBC network.

The Christian in Action, now marking the tenth year of N.C.C.M.'s presentation on the ABC network, continues to be broadcast every week.

N.C.C.M. supplies speakers for the Thursday programs of Faith in Our Time, a five-a-week series produced by the Mutual Broadcasting System.

In the field of television, N.C.C.M. introduced the Catholic Hour to network TV on January 4, 1953. It had previously appeared as the Catholic portion of the NBC-TV religious hour under the general program title of "Frontiers of Faith." Under present arrangements with NBC-TV the Catholic Hour is televised on 20 Sundays during the year.

In June, 1952, N.C.C.M. inaugurated a Film Information Service. In a monthly publication *Close-Up* this service reviews and appraises 16-mm religious films suitable for use by Catholics on TV as well as for private or public or club showings.

Statistics indicate that during the year 41,867 re-

quests had been received for copies of radio and TV talks and productions.

Officers elected at the convention were:

Francis I. Nally, Toledo, O., president; Albert J. Sattler, New York, N. Y., vice-president; David A. McMullan, St. Louis, Mo., secretary; Patrick F. McDonald, Boston, Mass., treasurer.

In addition to the above officers, the following were named for the executive committee: Joseph Lemp, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Garnet Griffin, Detroit, Mich.; and John Hayes, Chicago.

## Television

THE CATHOLIC HOUR-TV was given the highest award of all network religious TV programs by the 23rd Institute for Education by Radio-Television sponsored by Ohio State University.

The citation reads: "For an intelligent and educational approach to religion both in revealing misconceptions and in restating clearly the true meanings through commonplace, everyday experiences."

The following schools won TV sets in the Catholic Hour-TV Contest, sponsored by N.C.C.M. in conjunction with its January TV series, for having the highest percentage of pupils viewing all four programs:

Villa Angela Academy, Cleveland, Ohio (90%); Academy of Our Lady of Nazareth, Wakefield, Mass. (85%); Monsignor Ryan Memorial High School, Dorchester, Mass. (81%).

The following schools were awarded cash prizes for submitting the slogans judged most appropriate to the theme and format of The Catholic Hour on TV.

St. John the Baptist Academy, Syracuse, N. Y. (\$100.00), "The Catholic Hour Televised—God's Word Visualized."

O'Donoghue High School, Charlotte, N. C. (\$50.00), "Seeing Is Believing—Do Both—View the Catholic Hour."

St. Michael's High School, Chicago, Ill. (\$50.00), "Helpful, Holy, Full of Power, That's the TV Catholic Hour."

## Radio for May

*Catholic Hour* (NBC, 2:00-2:30 p.m., EST, Sundays). Hollywood notables Ruth Hussey, Gene Lockhart, Ann Blythe and Rod O'Connor are to be featured in a special dramatic series on the "Five Glorious Mysteries," presented by N.C.C.M. in cooperation with the Catholic Daughters of America and the Family Rosary Crusade.

*Christian in Action* (ABC, 11:30-12 Noon, EST, Sundays). Father Alfred C. Rush, C.Ss.R., Holy Redeemer College, Washington, D. C., gives a series of five talks on "The Everlasting Family." Music by St. Patrick's Choir, Washington, D. C.

*Faith in Our Time* (MBS, 12:45-1:00 p.m., EST, Tuesdays and Thursdays). On the Thursday programs in May, a series of four talks by Father John Selner, S.S., St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, Md.

## Death Claims Archbishop Kiley

The Most Reverend Moses Elias Kiley, Archbishop of Milwaukee for thirteen years, died on April 15.

Prior to his administration of the Milwaukee See, His Excellency was Bishop of Trenton for six years. At the time of his appointment to Trenton he was serving as Spiritual Director of the North American College in Rome and was consecrated in Rome, on St. Patrick's Day, 1934.

Archbishop Kiley was born in Cape Breton in 1876 and was educated in Canada, in the United States and in Rome. He was ordained in Rome in 1911 and began his priestly career in Chicago, specializing in the field of charity. He became Chicago's first director of Associated Catholic Charities. In 1924 he was named a Monsignor and two years later returned to the North American College as its spiritual director.

*May his soul rest in peace.*

## Bishop McNulty Named Bishop of Paterson

The Most Reverend James A. McNulty, who has been Auxiliary Bishop of Newark since 1947, has been named Bishop of Paterson by His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

Bishop McNulty was born in New York City, January 16, 1900. He completed his education at Louvain University, Belgium, and was ordained to the priesthood there on July 12, 1925. His Excellency received pastoral, educational and diocesan assignments in the Newark Archdiocese, and, in August, 1947, was named Titular Bishop of Methone and Auxiliary to the Archbishop of Newark.

Congratulations and prayers go to Bishop McNulty in his new work.

## Calendar of Scheduled Catholic Meetings and Events

*(Continued from page 2)*

### September, 1953

- 2-6—NATIONAL NEWMAN CLUB FEDERATION—39th national convention, Minneapolis, Minn.
- 22-24—NATIONAL CATHOLIC CEMETERY CONFERENCE—annual meeting, Cleveland, Ohio.
- 27-28—CATHOLIC CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRIAL AND SOCIAL RELATIONS—regional conference, Portland, Ore. Originally set for early October.

### October, 1953

- 1-6—NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES—annual convention, St. Louis, Mo.
- 10-12—CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE—regional congress for Province of Boston at Springfield, Mass.
- 18-25—NATIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH WEEK—3rd annual
- 22-24—CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE—regional congress for Province of New York at Rochester, N. Y.

### November, 1953

- 3-5—CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE—regional congress for Province of San Antonio at Amarillo, Texas.
- 5-8—NATIONAL FEDERATION OF DIOCESAN CATHOLIC YOUTH COUNCILS—second national convention, Boston, Mass.
- 8-9—NATIONAL CATHOLIC CAMPING ASSOCIATION—second national convention, Boston, Mass.
- 9-13—NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CATHOLIC YOUTH WORK—fourth national meeting, Boston, Mass.

### December, 1953

- 28-30—AMERICAN CATHOLIC HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION—34th annual meeting, Chicago, Ill.

## CATHOLIC ACTION — MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

*"We have grouped together, under the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the various agencies by which the cause of religion is furthered. Each of these, continuing its own special work in its chosen field, will now derive additional support through general co-operation."*

—from the 1919 Pastoral Letter of the  
Archbishops and Bishops of the U. S.

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